

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

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WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PASS SAM 86970

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

HEREWITH FULL TEXT NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL FRIDAY,  
JANUARY 18 HEADED "ON TO GENEVA":

THE AGREEMENT ON DISENGAGEMENT OF EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI  
FORCES ALONG THE SUEZ CANAL IS A NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT FOR  
ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED. IF PROMPTLY AND FAITHFULLY  
EXECUTED, IT WILL SHARPLY REDUCE THE DANGER OF RENEWED  
FIGHTING AND SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS OF A  
COMPREHENSIVE ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT.

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER, THE SUCCESS OF WHAT  
HE HAS DESCRIBED AS HIS MOST DIFFICULT NEGOTIATING ASSIGN-  
MENT IS A SINGULAR PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT. HIS TIRELESS  
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"SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY" BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND ASWAN BROKE A

THREATENED DEADLOCK; IT PROVED OF PARTICULAR VALUE IN HELPING TO OVERCOME THE MUTUAL FEARS AND SUSPICIONS THAT HAVE DIVIDED THE ANTAGONISTS FOR MORE THAN A QUARTER-CENTURY. MR. KISSINGER'S SUCCESS IN WINNING THE RESPECT AND CONFIDENCE OF THE LEADERS ON BOTH SIDES WAS THE MORE REMARKABLE BECAUSE OF THE HANDICAPS HE FACED WITH THE EGYPTIANS AS AN AMERICAN AND A JEW.

IN ANNOUNCING THE DIPLOMATIC BREAKTHROUGH YESTERDAY, PRESIDENT NIXON WISELY CAUTIONED AGAINST UNDERESTIMATING THE DIFFICULTIES THAT STILL LIE AHEAD. THE LARGER ISSUES INVOLVED IN BUILDING A FRAMEWORK OF ENDURING PEACE THROUGHOUT THE REGION MUST STILL BE RESOLVED, THOUGH IT CAN BE PRESUMED THAT SUCH FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS AS FINAL BORDERS AND LONG-TERM SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WERE NOT ALTOGETHER IGNORED IN THE PAST WEEK'S INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS OVER MILITARY DISENGAGEMENT.

SUCCESSFUL DISENGAGEMENT, IN AND OF ITSELF, CAN CREATE A FAVORABLE CLIMATE FOR THE DIRECT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES WHICH SHOULD NOW GO FORWARD WITHOUT DELAY IN GENEVA. THESE TALKS WILL PROVIDE THE ULTIMATE TEST OF GOOD FAITH ON BOTH SIDES AND THE SUPREME CHALLENGE TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S EXTRAORDINARY DIPLOMATIC SKILL. (END TEXT). RUSH

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